



OWHIRO BAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
www.owhiro.school.nz

Issue No. 1

1 February 2012

Important Dates to Remember

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| • Waitangi Day— school closed | 6 February |
| • Beach Education—Lyall Bay Beach (juniors) | 10 February |
| • Beach Education—Lyall Bay Beach (seniors) | 13 February |
| • “Meet the Teacher” and Class Programme Evening | 13 February |
| • Life Education Mobile Classroom | 17–21 February |
| • Board of Trustees Meeting | 22 February |
| • Walk and Wheels Day | 29 February |
| • School Fun Run | 7 March |
| • Southern Zone Cross Country | 27 March |
| • Southern Zone Cross Country (postponement date) | 29 March |
| • Three-Way Conferences (late night Thursday 29 March) | 28 & 29 March |
| • Last Day of Term | 5 April |

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Kia ora, Nameste, Shalom, Talofa, Konichiwa, Guten Tag, ni Hao, Kia orana, Hello, Hi

Welcome back to the start of the school year everyone. It is such a joy to see our wonderful students and staff back in the school again, especially as they look so refreshed and re-energised for the year ahead. The enthusiasm and excitement around the school is a wonderful start to 2012. We are looking forward to a successful year of learning together, with lots of fun, challenges, learning from our mistakes and celebrating successes together. We are looking forward to seeing the amazing developments your children will make over the next 11 months as we work together with you to support their growth.

Being at school is all about LEARNING. We also acknowledge that learning occurs throughout the whole day, and throughout our whole lives - so much of it occurs outside or beyond the school day and school programmes. As teachers we work to connect new learning with prior experiences so that students can make the links and build on their existing skills, capabilities and knowledge. We endeavour to provide authentic learning connections with our students world eg: local stream, while also providing for their individual and diverse learning needs. After our Teacher Only Days in January we wanted to share with you some underlying ideas about learning with both students and you as we set out on our learning journey's in 2012.

What do we know about Learning?

Learning is...

- Intellectual, social, emotional and cultural
- Diverse and different for each individual
- Takes time
- Is linear **and** erratic
- Happens by design **and** chance
- Happens in school **and** homes, workplaces, clubs, committees, societies
- Active and conscious rather than passive
- Natural and universal...we all do it and we often take it for granted
- Goes on throughout life – regardless!
- Is about change

From L Stoll, D Fink, L Earl—**It’s About Learning (and it’s about time) - 2003**

One of the great things we can help to do for our children is to talk with them explicitly and directly about their learning – not just in terms of the knowledge and content, but also in:-

- the ways that they learn **and**
- do they know how to be successful in learning **and**
- what they have done to be successful **and**
- how it feels to be successful **and**
- If they are proud of the success they have achieved.

So please take the time to talk with your children about the process of learning and their feelings about their successes. This regular discussion about learning, and what works for each of your children helps them appreciate that they are

1. the ones that cause the learning to occur
2. learning each and every day – both at school, at home and in the many other aspects of their lives e.g.: sports, guides/scouts, social and family gatherings.

Have a great week and start to the school year everyone. We look forward to talking with you, also, at our first school get together - 'Meet the Teacher' evening on 13 February.

Ka kite
Karen



THANKS....

To the wonderful staff who have been at school over the past few weeks preparing for a great start to the academic year for your child/ren.

To Steve Kelly and Sandy McNaught who helped remove the wind-damaged shade-cloth last weekend so it can be mended.



WELCOME

Welcome Kahurangi Cormack, Ezme Scahill, Marlana Trotter, Zora Thomson and Gianni Baker to Room 5, to Athena LaGrange who is joining Room 7, Boh Denham, Grace-Maia Taylor also Kyro Krijgsman to Room 6 and Savi Krijgsman to Room 1. Welcome also to the families of Kahurangi, Marlana, Athena, Grace-Maia, Kyro, and Savi who are joining our school community.

To all the new RTLB teachers in the newly-formed Wellington Cluster who are now governed by Owhiro Bay School, lead and managed by Warren Rankin the Cluster Manager and Karen Hardie as Lead School Principal.



VIRTUES

Just a reminder that we continue to use “The Virtues Programme” to promote the virtues which already exist in our school.~ At Owhiro Bay this is integrated into our curriculum, student management practice, the language we use at school and daily classroom life. The strategies we use are:

- To speak the language of the virtues
- To recognise the use and teachable moments
- To set clear boundaries
- To respect, acknowledge and celebrate the virtues as they are practiced in our school—by both students and adults.

The focus for Week 1 and 2 is Friendships and Friendliness as students start the new school year. Friendships help people feel they belong. Being a friend is taking an interest in others, going out of our way to make others feel welcome or make a stranger feel at home. It's about willingly sharing belongings, time, ideas and feelings. It helps people stop feeling lonely or left out. We work hard at Owhiro Bay School to promote friendliness and inclusion for all our students, staff and community.

SAFETY IN THE SUN

During Terms 1 and 4, wearing of sunhats is compulsory in the playground so please check your child has a named hat to wear at school.

We also encourage the use of sunglasses and sunblock during these months.

If your child does not have a hat to wear they will need to play under the shadecloth during playtimes this term.

NAMING PUPIL'S PROPERTY

Please ensure your child's clothing, stationery and school equipment are named as it makes it easier to return to them if lost. Any unclaimed, unnamed items may be found in the lost property box located in the corridor opposite the lunchroom.

The lost property box is emptied at the end of each term. We encourage students and parents to check for items that belong to them but any unclaimed, unnamed items are donated to children less fortunate than ours.

STATIONERY 2012

Thank you to everyone who have already purchased stationery for 2012.

Just a reminder that Year 4– 6 students lists include the “Mathletics” on-line programme which is a wonderful resource to help your child practice their skills at school and at home.

Staffing and Organisation for 2012

The following is our beginning of year staff organisation:

Fulltime:

Karen Hardie	Principal
Deanne Daysh	Harakeke (R5) year 0/1 Teacher, Deputy Principal (juniors)
Shelley Berry	Karaka (R7) year 1/2 Teacher, Senior Teacher
Rowena Johnstone	Tawa (R6) year 2/3 Teacher
Nicola Clissold	Karo (R1) year 4/5 Teacher
Therese Young	Pohutukawa (R3) year 5/6 Teacher, Deputy Principal (seniors)
Warren Rankin	Cluster Manager Resource Teacher Learning and Behaviour
Ruth Jones	Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour

Part-time

Ross Alexander	Mathematics and ICT Support Teacher
Andrea Robinson	Choir
Shan Jordan	Band and Percussion Teacher

Support Staff:

Wendy Davenport	Office Manager
Joanne Leggett	Accounts Manager
Faith Governor	Teacher Aide
Lisa Reweti	Maori Enrichment
Bizhong Fu	Cleaning Staff
Baoling Yang	Cleaning Staff
Professional Garden Services	Lawns, rubbish, grounds, maintenance

SCHOOL HOURS

Please note that the school is open for students at 8.30 am each day. Children are encouraged to arrive between 8.30 and 8.55 am so that they can get ready for learning. The bell rings to start the school day at 8.55 am. There are two breaks for food and play:

Playtime: 10.40—11.10 am, and

Lunchtime: 12.40—1.30 pm



School finishes at 3.00 pm

Although we aim to be as open and welcoming as possible, students can not go into their rooms before 8.30 am, as teachers are busy preparing learning programmes. Please do not bring your child to school before 8.30 am or allow them to leave home too early.

After school, all students go home at 3.00 pm. Harakeke (Room 5) students are collected from their classroom. All other students within the school grounds in the junior adventure playground until their parent/caregivers or adult collecting them arrive.

Please ensure your child/ren are collected by 3.15 pm at the latest as teachers have meetings and other commitments from this time and cannot supervise children after 3.00 pm.

If your child wishes to play in the school grounds it is important that they go home first so that parents/caregivers know where they are.

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

A reminder that parents/caregivers are asked to contact the school each day that child/ren are away. Any unexplained absences are followed up by a call from the school. As there can be a delay in connecting with parents/caregivers or emergency contacts, for your child's safety **we urge you to let us know if they are going to be late or absent.** If you leave a message on the school answerphone regarding your child missing the roll count at 9.00 am, please leave the reason for your child's absence, for example whether they are going to be late, are sick/have a medical appointment or other reason. The electronic register requires this to be entered. If the reason is unknown, e.g., "away", "not coming in today" (as per any answerphone message received), this is entered in the electronic register as "reason unknown" and after 20 days the system classifies the student as truant for those days.

Also, all schools are classed as a business by telephone providers which means a 20c cost to the school each time a call is made. Please help us use our finances for the child(ren's) learning programmes by remembering to contact us each time your child is absent. Thanks.

If your child is late, please make sure they come into the school via the office so that the electronic roll can be adjusted to ensure your child's attendance is accurately recorded.

Although we encourage you to make any appointments outside school hours, if there is no alternative and you are taking your child for any appointments during the course of the school day, please let your child's teacher know and also sign the "student release book" in reception before taking your child from the school grounds. This is very important for Health and Safety requirements too.



SCHOOL TERMS 2012

Term 1	Tuesday 31 January—Thursday 5 April (94 half days)
Term 2	Monday 23 April—Friday 29 June (96 half days)
Term 3	Monday 16 July—Friday 28 September (110 half days)
Term 4	Monday 15 October—Friday 14 December (88 half days)

Annual holidays for 2012

Waitangi Day	6 February (Monday)
Good Friday	6 April
Easter Monday	9 April
Anzac Day	25 April (Wednesday—first week Term 2)
Queens Birthday	4 June
Labour Day	22 October

SAFETY—ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURES FROM SCHOOL

We ask all students and adults coming to school from south of the carpark to enter the school through the gate to the courts, and those coming from the north to enter through the main gate. This is to stop any foot traffic in the carpark area and prevent possible accidents from occurring.

As both the kindergarten and school staff require use of the school car park and often have heavy loads to carry, we ask parents and caregivers to please park outside the school.

MEET THE TEACHERS/CLASS MEETINGS

We hope your child/ren settle well into their new classes. Please have a chat with your child's teacher early on if you have any concerns about your child's school work or life at school. Even if it appears to be something quite small we encourage you to do this to prevent it becoming a larger issue.

There is a parent evening on Monday 13 February to hear more about your child's day and school work/expectations for 2012. Meetings will be 30 minutes per class which are staggered to enable you to attend for each of your children. Please diary these now as they are important for you to find out what is happening for your child this year.

5.00 pm	Karo (Room 1)
5.30 pm	Harakeke (Room 5) and Pohutukawa (Room 3)
6.00 pm	Tawa (Room 7)
6.30 pm	Karaka (Room 6)

Please note this short meeting will give you a good idea of how things work for your child/ren this year and the expectations of your child's teacher. If you need to wait between meetings you are most welcome to have a cup of coffee/tea in the staffroom.

CHOIR

This year, choir will be taken by Andrea Robinson on Monday afternoons. Interested students from Years 4—6 will have "auditions" for choir. More details to follow.

HOME LEARNING (Learning Work that Happens at Home)

When you come along to your child/ren's "Meet the Teacher" and Programme Meetings on Monday 13 February you will find out more about your child's home learning. Our class newsletter called "Learning Links" come home to you each term. The Term 1 "Learning Link" will be shared and a copy provided for you at the meeting on 13 February.

While we recognise that many people have strong views regarding "homework" (we call this home learning) at Owhiro Bay School and give students this for the following purposes:

- To foster parents and caregiver involvement in student learning by keeping them in touch with what students are learning at school. Learning Links and home learning activities aim to provide opportunities for sharing and discussion about learning.
- To assist children progressively to develop independent learning and study routines and also the effective management of their own time.

Parents/caregivers are encouraged to share "Learning Link" and home learning activities with their children and to ask them questions about the learning, but **NOT** to do this for them. If there is any difficulty or issues with home learning activities for you or your child, we encourage you to talk directly with your child's class teacher or alternatively with one of the Deputy Principals or Principal.

Regular home learning and reading is part of our school policy. We expect children to read every day and that students will spend approximately the following amount of time on their home learning each evening:

New Entrants/Year 2	10 minutes
Year 3 and 4 students	10 minutes
Year 5 and 6 students	20 minutes—reading time.



BEACH EDUCATION

Each alternate year the school Physical Education Programme focuses on either swimming lessons or water safety. This year the focus is on water safety at the beach.

Juniors will travel by bus to depart on Friday 10 February at 9.05 am and return to school at 2.30 pm. The seniors will have their beach education on Monday 13 February and will also travel by bus departing at 9.05 am and returning at 2.30 pm. Parent help and supervision is required for this programme. Please contact your child's teacher directly if you can come along to help.

The cost of the tuition from qualified Surf Life Instructors and the bus fares to and from Lyall Bay will come from the money asked for Trips/Performances in Term 1.

MAORI LANGUAGE LEARNING

Te Reo Maori has a special place in **The New Zealand Curriculum**. To fulfil the intent of **The New Zealand Curriculum** Owairo Bay School provides instruction in te reo and tikanga maori in all classes. Whaea Lisa is in school on Tuesday afternoons to help support and guide programmes that enable all students the opportunity to acquire knowledge of Maori language and culture. To make the most of this support, all students will be attending Te Kete Rourou teina (year 1-3) or Te Kete Rourou tuakana (year 4-6) this year.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY HANGI

Over the past 30—40 years our school has been fortunate to hold a wonderful event where the community gets together to provide and participate in a hangi on the school grounds.

As always we rely on the community coming together to enable this to occur. “Many hands make light work...” so we need your hands.

Usually this event takes place on a Friday in mid—late March. Please let the school office know if you can help with any of the following:

- Digging, preparation of pit (Thursday evening)
- Putting food in and taking it out (Friday—during the day)
- Ordering/buying vegetables
- Ordering/buying meat
- Buying consumables, e.g., tin foil plates, stuffing ingredients
- Making stuffing (Thursday evening)
- Delivery of flyers
- Serving food (Friday evening)
- Preparing vegetables (Friday—during the day)
- Packing hangi parcels (Friday—during the day)
- Rubbish clearing and cleaning and putting away sacks (Friday evening)

Bikes and Wheels at School

The school encourages students to use their wheels to come to school. Bikes, scooters and skateboards can be stored in the bike stands that are located beside the resource room. Helmets must be worn to improve safety.

Please note that when students enter the school grounds they need to walk bikes to the stands and walk to outside gates as they leave. This is to ensure the safety of pedestrians entering and leaving the school as well as those on bikes. Thanks for reinforcing this with your own children and other students in the school that you see with bikes.

Wednesdays are “Wheels Days” which means that the children can ride their bikes and scooters on the courts during breaktimes on Wednesdays. The reminder of the week the courts are used for other activities.

On Wednesday 29 February our first “Walk and Wheel” to come to school day is scheduled. Further information about this will come to you in the following newsletters.



2012 OFFICE HOURS

Please note that the school office is open from 8.45—2.45 pm each day.

We are extremely fortunate to have Wendy as our school office manager. However, in 2012 Wendy is working an additional office position for RTLB, so you may see her at the school before or after these times. However she is only available to assist with school business from 8.45—2.45 pm.

Many thanks for understanding that she has other responsibilities outside her school office times from this year.

PRINCIPAL/PARENT CUPPA AND A CHAT

Please remember Karen is available on Monday mornings at 9.00 am for a cuppa and a chat.

If there is anything you would like to discuss/chat about or wish to have clarified, please join her then or feel free to speak to Wendy and make an appointment to come and see Karen at another time if the Monday does not suit.



Emailing Newsletters

In an effort to reduce paper cost, we continue to email newsletters each Wednesday for parents/caregivers who have provided their contact address. If you have changed or yet to provide us with your email address, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

DONATIONS/TRIPS & PERFORMANCES/CONSUMABLES 2012

Each term your child requires \$15.00 (or \$60.00 per year) to pay for their class school trips, performers who are organised to come to school or children visit outside of the school. Also we ask for \$10.00 per term (or \$40.00 per year if you prefer) for consumables such as photocopying, jovis, whiteboard pens, cello tapes etc. Money for trips/performances and consumables pay directly for these performers/trips or equipment for your child.

We encourage parents/caregivers to pay these to enable all our students to benefit from a number of extra educational experiences and visits from performers or trips outside of the school.

Please note: When your child enters school you sign a form that gives permission to attend all these visits/performances and visitors to the school. Should you wish your child not to attend any visit or performance, it is up to you as parents/caregivers to notify the school and seek a refund if required. Visits and performers are advertised through the newsletter in advance.

Donations

Donations remain the same as last year—\$40.00 per term (or \$160.00 for the year), per child. These donations are important in supporting the school to address the shortfall in government funding. They provide essential learning equipment and opportunities for your child(ren) and are tax deductible. If you pay your donations before 31 March you can send your receipt from the school to Inland Revenue and receive 1/3 (33%) refund.

Invoice/Statements for the above will come home with your child next week, however you are welcome to forward payment before this. Statements indicate the amounts asked for the whole of 2012 and can be paid in instalments, term by term or for the whole year. Please note you can pay these directly into the schools account. Details are on the paperwork coming home to you.

If you have any queries regarding these, please contact Wendy in the office.

Community notices

(Every effort is made to present accurate information.
The Board of Trustees does not accept responsibility for any inaccuracies.
The Board is unable to accept responsibility for guaranteeing the goods or services advertised)

ISLAND BAY UNITED JUNIORS

Play Football for Island Bay United Juniors – Registration is now open Registrations are now open for children wishing to play football for Island Bay United this season. You can register online until 24 February at www.ibujuniors.org.nz, or attend our registration night at the Island Bay Presbyterian Church, 88 The Parade from 6:30pm – 8:30pm on Tuesday 21 February. On the night we will be running a boot swap and representatives from our IBU junior committee and from Capital Football will be available to answer any questions you may have about the new football programme launching this year. Players grades are based on the year that they are born. In 2012 the following years apply to each grade: 2006 & 2007 - First kicks, 2005 7th grade, 2004 8th grade, 2003 9th grade etc up to 14th grade. An exception is that girls may elect to play down one grade. There is also a girls only league available for 7th grade and up that plays on a Sunday. All players need to provide their own ball, shin pads, boots and yellow socks. 7th grade and up also need to have their own black shorts but team shirt is supplied. Fees are \$75 for First kicks, \$95 for 7th grade and up and maximum \$190 per family - on enrolment night cash or cheque is required.

KIDS CIRCUS

Junior Circus classes for 5-7yrs are starting on 7 February. Class times are 3.30-4.30pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at Wellington Circus Hub, 11 Hutchison Street, Newtown. Kids are welcome to do a free trial class. Wellington Circus Trust's programme includes Preschool Circus for 3 & 4yrs, Kids Circus for 8-12yrs plus many classes for teens and adults. Check out the full programme and make your bookings online at <http://www.circus.org.nz> or call Alice at the Circus Hub phone 3800051 or 0210642337.

VIVO RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

"Vivo Rhythmic Gymnastics classes are open now for term 1 enrolments! Come and try out a class: Mondays 4 - 5pm at Ngaio Town Hall or Saturdays 2 - 3pm or 3 - 4pm at Khandallah Town Hall. For more information email vivogym@gmail.com or ring Erica (021) 124 1059"

ARTSIGHT ART PROGRAMME

ARTSIGHT TERM 1 ART PROGRAMME Artsight offers inspiring after school and weekend art classes for kids and teens. Classes include drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture and are taught by registered Visual Arts teachers. Location-Toi Poneke, 65 Abel Smith St, Wellington. For more information and to book check out our website: www.artsight.co.nz or contact Fiona Sullivan 3862908 or 021786629, email fiona@artsight.co.nz

"Fun, exciting, Music Teaching Studio Located in Aro Street!"

A new affordable community music tuition centre has enrolments open in 2012 for people who wish to learn keyboards in Saturday Morning Classes. Classes start Saturday February 11th. Fully registered, experienced and qualified music teachers.
For more information go to www.aromusiclessons.com or contact:
Phone (04) 934 5822,
Cell: 021 236 3100
Email: chris@aromusiclessons.com"